

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA
LAKE CHARLES DIVISION**

STATE OF LOUISIANA, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR., *et al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:24-cv-00406

Hon. Judge James D. Cain, Jr.

Hon. Magistrate Judge Thomas P. LeBlanc

JOINT MOTION TO STAY

In accordance with the Court’s November 19, 2024 order, *see* ECF No. 82, the parties submit this joint motion to stay the district court proceedings. The parties agree that staying these proceedings will preserve party and judicial resources because this case will likely become moot. The parties have filed a similar joint motion with the Fifth Circuit to hold the appeal in abeyance.

The Court’s power to stay litigation is “incidental to the power inherent in every court to control the disposition of the causes on its docket with economy of time and effort for itself, for counsel, and for litigants.” *Landis v. North Am. Co.*, 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936). When considering a motion to stay, courts consider three factors: (1) potential prejudice to any party; (2) hardship and inequity if the action is not stayed; and (3) preservation of judicial resources. *See, e.g., Kerr Mach. Co. v. Vulcan Indus. Holdings, LLC*, No. 6-20-CV-00200-ADA, 2021 WL 1298932, at *1 (W.D. Tex. Apr. 7, 2021). Here, staying this litigation will not prejudice any party. The parties agree a stay is appropriate and will result in no prejudice because (a) the parties’ resources will be preserved by a stay, and (b) the preliminary injunction, which will remain in effect, preserves the status quo. *See* ECF No. 73 (enjoining and restraining Defendants from “halting and/or pausing the approval process for pending and future applications for LNG exports of liquified natural gas to non-FTA countries”). A stay will

also preserve the Court's resources. If it grants a stay, the Court will likely avoid adjudicating administrative record and summary judgment disputes that will likely become moot in a matter of months.

If the Court grants the parties' requested stay, the parties will submit a joint status report no later than April 1, 2025, where the parties will either inform the Court that the matter is moot or that they need to recommence this litigation.

For the foregoing reasons, the parties respectfully request that the Court stay these proceedings until April 1, 2025.

Dated: December 20, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

TODD KIM
Assistant Attorney General
Environment and Natural Resources
United States Department of Justice
/s/J. Scott Thomas
J. SCOTT THOMAS
KATHARINE LAUBACH
MAGGIE WOODWARD
Trial Attorneys
Natural Resources Section
United States Department of Justice
P.O. Box 7611
Washington, D.C. 20044-7611
Telephone: (202) 514-3553 (Thomas)
Telephone: (202) 305-8568 (Laubach)
Telephone: (202) 305-4224 (Wood)
jeffrey.thomas2@usdoj.gov
katharine.laubach@usdoj.gov
maggie.woodward@usdoj.gov

THOMAS SNODGRASS
JEFFREY CANDRIAN
Trial Attorneys
Natural Resources Section
999 18th St., South Terrace, Suite
Denver, Colorado 80202
Ph: 303-844-1382 (Candrian)
Email: Jeffrey.candrian@usdoj.gov
Counsel for Defendants

ELIZABETH B. MURRILL
Attorney General of Louisiana

/s/Morgan Brungard
Morgan Brungard (La #40298)
Deputy Solicitor General
/s/Autumn Hamit Patterson
Autumn Hamit Patterson*
Special Assistant Solicitor General
OFFICE OF THE LOUISIANA ATTORNEY
GENERAL
1885 North Third Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70804
(225) 326-6705
brungardm@ag.louisiana.gov
ahamitpatterson@outlook.com

Tyler R. Green*
Daniel Shapiro*
CONSOVOY McCARTHY PLLC
222 S. Main Street, 5th Floor
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
(703) 243-9423

Counsel for Plaintiff State of Louisiana

KEN PAXTON
Attorney General of Texas
BRENT WEBSTER
First Assistant Attorney General
JAMES LLOYD
Deputy Attorney General for Civil Litigation
KELLIE E. BILLINGS-RAY
Chief, Environmental Protection Division

/s/ Ian M. Lancaster
Ian M. Lancaster*
Assistant Attorney General
H. Carl Myers*
Assistant Attorney General
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY
GENERAL OF TEXAS
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION
P.O. Box 12548, MC-066
Austin, Texas 78711-2548
Telephone (512) 463-2012
Facsimile (512) 320-0911
Amber.Ahmed@oag.texas.gov
Ian.Lancaster@oag.texas.gov
Carl.Myers@oag.texas.gov

Counsel for Plaintiff State of Texas

LYNN FITCH
Attorney General of Mississippi

/s/ Justin L. Matheny
Justin L. Matheny*
Deputy Solicitor General
MISSISSIPPI ATTORNEY GENERAL'S
OFFICE
P.O. Box 220
Jackson, MS 39205
(601) 359-3680
justin.matheny@ago.ms.gov

*Counsel for Plaintiff State of
Mississippi*

STEVE MARSHALL
Attorney General of Alabama

/s/ Edmund G. LaCour Jr.
Edmund G. LaCour Jr.*
Solicitor General
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ALABAMA
501 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 300152
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0152
Telephone: (334) 242-7300
Fax: (334) 353-8400
Edmund.LaCour@AlabamaAG.gov

Counsel for Plaintiff State of Alabama

TREG TAYLOR
Attorney General of Alaska

/s/Mary Hunter Gramling
Mary Hunter Gramling*
STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF LAW
P.O. Box 110300
Juneau, AK 99811-0300
Telephone: (907) 465-3600
Facsimile: (907) 465-2520
Email: mary.gramling@alaska.gov

Counsel for Plaintiff State of Alaska

ASHLEY MOODY
Attorney General of Florida

/s/Natalie P. Christmas
Natalie P. Christmas*
Counselor to the Attorney General
OFFICE OF THE FLORIDA ATTORNEY
GENERAL
PL-01 the Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 414-3300
natalie.christmas@myfloridalegal.com

Counsel for Plaintiff State of Florida

KRIS W. KOBACH
Attorney General of Kansas

/s/Erin B. Gaide
Erin B. Gaide*
Assistant Attorney General
Memorial Building, 2nd Floor
120 S.W. 10th Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1597
Tel: (785) 296-2215
Fax: (785) 296-2218
Email: erin.gaide@ag.ks.gov

Counsel for Plaintiff State of Kansas

TIM GRIFFIN
Attorney General of Arkansas

/s/Nicholas J. Bronni
Nicholas J. Bronni*
Solicitor General
Dylan L. Jacobs*
Deputy Solicitor General
OFFICE OF THE ARKANSAS ATTORNEY
GENERAL
323 Center Street, Suite 200
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 682-6302
Nicholas.Bronni@ArkansasAG.gov
dylan.jacobs@arkansasag.gov

Counsel for Plaintiff State of Arkansas

CHRISTOPHER M. CARR
Attorney General of Georgia

/s/Stephen J. Petrany
Stephen J. Petrany*
Solicitor General
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
40 Capitol Square SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
(404) 458-3408
spetrary@law.ga.gov

Counsel for Plaintiff State of Georgia

AUSTIN KNUDSEN
Attorney General of Montana

/s/Christian B. Corrigan
Christian B. Corrigan*
Solicitor General
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
215 North Sanders
P.O. Box 201401
Helena, Montana 59620-1401
(406) 444-2026
christian.corrigan@mt.gov

Counsel for Plaintiff State of Montana

MICHAEL T. HILGERS
Attorney General of Nebraska

/s/ Grant D. Strobl
Grant D. Strobl*
Assistant Solicitor General
OFFICE OF THE NEBRASKA ATTORNEY
GENERAL
2115 State Capitol
Lincoln, NE 68509
(402) 471-2683
Grant.Strobl@nebraska.gov

Counsel for Plaintiff State of Nebraska

ALAN WILSON
Attorney General of South
Carolina

/s/ Joseph D. Spate
Joseph D. Spate*
Assistant Deputy Solicitor General
1000 Assembly Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 734-3371
josephspate@scag.gov

Counsel for Plaintiff State of South Carolina

PATRICK MORRISEY
Attorney General of West Virginia

/s/ Michael R. Williams
Michael R. Williams*
Principal Deputy Solicitor General
OFFICE OF THE WEST VIRGINIA
ATTORNEY GENERAL
1900 Kanawha Blvd. East
Building 1, Room E-26
Charleston, WV 25305
Tel: (304) 558-2021
Michael.R.Williams@wvago.gov

*Counsel for Plaintiff State of
West Virginia*

GENTNER DRUMMOND
Attorney General of Oklahoma

/s/ Garry M. Gaskins, II
Garry M. Gaskins, II*
Solicitor General
OFFICE OF OKLAHOMA ATTORNEY
GENERAL
313 NE 21st Street
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
(405) 521-3921
Garry.Gaskins@oag.ok.gov

*Counsel for Plaintiff State of
Oklahoma*

SEAN D. REYES
Attorney General of Utah

/s/ Stanford E. Purser
Stanford E. Purser*
Utah Solicitor General
350 N. State Street, Suite 230
P.O. Box 142320
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-2320
Telephone: (801) 538-9600
spurser@agutah.gov

Counsel for Plaintiff State of Utah

BRIDGET HILL
Attorney General of Wyoming

/s/ D. David DeWald
D. David DeWald*
Deputy Attorney General
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF WYOMING
109 State Capitol
Cheyenne, WY 82002
(307) 777-7895
david.dewald@wyo.gov

Counsel for Plaintiff State of Wyoming

*admitted *Pro Hac Vice*